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LOS ANGELES (AP) -- A SECRET MEMO REVEALING A CONTRACT BETWEEN HOWARD HUGHES AND THE CIA TO RAISE A SUNKEN SOVIET SUBMARINE WASN'T TAKEN BY BURGLARS BUT WAS FLUSHED DOWN A TOILET MONTHS AGO, THE LOS ANGELES TIMES SAID.

THE TIMES SAID IN TODAY'S EDITIONS THAT IT HAD INTERVIEWED SECURITY GUARD MICHAEL DAVIS ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON BEFORE HE TOLD HIS TALE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS INVESTIGATING THE JUNE 5, 1974, BURGLARY OF HUGHES' SUMMA CORP. OFFICES IN HOLLYWOOD.

WORD OF THE PLAN TO RAISE THE SUNKEN SUBMARINE LEAKED FROM A LOS ANGELES COUNTY GRAND JURY PROBE OF THE BURGLARY. IT WAS WIDELY EPORTED THAT THE MISSING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED A TOP-SECRET MEMO IN THE HILLIONAIRE RECLUSE'S OWN HAND CONFIRMING THE CIA DEAL.

SUMMA OFFICIALS ATTEMPTED TO RANSOM THE MEMO AND LATER LAW
STAT EMFORCEMENT AGENTS OFFERED A $1 MILLION RANSOM, ACCORDING TO PUBLISHED EPORTS.

BUT DAVIS TOLD THE TIMES, "WHEN ALL THE PUBLICITY BEGAN TO BREAK ON HE SUBMARINE BUSINESS ABOUT A MONTH AGO, I TORE UP THE MEMO AND FLUSHED IT DOWN THE TOILET."

DAVIS WAS OVERPOWERED BY THE BURGLARS WHO BROKE INTO THE SUMMA OMMUNICATIONS CENTER.

"AFTER THE BURGLARS HAD GONE AND I HAD BEEN ABLE TO GET TO A PHONE TO CALL FOR HELP, I NOTICED TWO PIECES OF PAPER ON THE FLOOR NEAR THE DOOR TO KAY GLENN'S OFFICE," DAVIS TOLD THE TIMES. "THE BURGLARS MUST HAVE DROPPED THEM THERE." GLENN IS A VICE PRESIDENT OF SUMMA, THE HOLDING COMPANY CONTROLLING HUGHES' FINANCIAL EMPIRE.

"ONE OF THE PAPERS WAS JUST A TYPEWRITTEN MEMO TO HRH (HUGHES) AND THE OTHER LOOKED LIKE A CHECK WITH A LOT OF ZEROS ON IT. MY HANDS WERE STILL PARTIALLY TIED TOGETHER WITH TAPE, SO I HAD TO SORT OF SCOOP THE PAPERS UP AND JAM THEM INTO MY POCKET. IN ALL THE EXCITEMENT THAT FOLLOWED WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE POLICE AND EVERYTHING, I FORGOT THAT I HAD THE DOCUMENTS." DAVIS WAS QUOTED AS SAYING.

'IT WAS JUST AN ABSENT-MINDED THING. THE NEXT TIME I NOTICED THEM WAS WHEN I GOT HOME AND WAS IN THE BATHROOM CHANGING CLOTHES. WHEN I SAW WHAT I HAD, I PANICKED.

"ONE DOCUMENT WAS A MEMO SAYING THAT THE CIA WANTED TO BUILD A SHIP OR SOMETHING TO BRING UP A RUSSIAN SUB. . . . THE OTHER DOCUMENT WAS ACTUALLY A DEPOSIT NOTE FOR $100,000 MADE PAYABLE TO GLENN. FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, I KEPT BOTH THE MEMO AND THE NOTE IN A BEDROOM DRAWER."

DAVIS REPORTEDLY WAS FIRED FROM HIS JOB AT SUMMA SHORTLY AFTER THE BURGLARY BECAUSE HE REFUSED TO TAKE A LIE DETECTOR TEST. HE TOLD DETECTIVES THURSDAY, "I JUST DON'T BELIEVE IN THE POLYGRAPH, AND I SHALL WON'T TAKE ONE."

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These comments represent the initial and tentative reaction of the CIA Operations Center and of the appropriate analytic component in the Agency to the attached item from the news wire services.

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